

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended Claims 1, 6, 13, 18 and 21. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by La Porta et al. (US 5,509,010). The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection and has further amended the pending independent claims to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant considers as his invention. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner's favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention as recited by the now amended independent Claims discloses an interworking node operatively connectable to a plurality of call control nodes and a plurality of connection control nodes. As fully disclosed in the pending application and recited by the pending claims, each "call control node" further includes "switching intelligence" and "narrowband switching fabric". As further illustrated in the present application, such call control nodes including both "switching intelligence" and "narrowband switching fabric" may include "narrowband legacy switches". Furthermore, each connection control node includes "broadband switching fabric." Such broadband switching fabric may include "ATM" switches.

As further recited by independent Claim 1, a call control instruction transmitted by a particular one of said call control nodes is forwarded by the interworking node to one of the connection control nodes for controlling call connection over the broadband switch fabric within a particular connection control node. Furthermore, the interworking node further translates the call control instructions to a particular format that is compatible with that connection control node.

The interworking node in accordance with the teachings of the present invention therefore enables a number of newly introduced call connection nodes with "broadband switching fabric" to rely on an existing call control node with "switching intelligence" to receive and provide call control without having to introduce a new "switching intelligence" within each of the call connection nodes.

The Applicant respectfully submits that such novel and unobvious invention as claimed by now pending independent Claims is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the cited references. In that regard, La Porta merely discloses a protocol conversion system between UNI and NNI protocols. For example, Fig. 7 of La Porta cited by the Examiner merely shows an "interworking process 702" interacting with one "N-ISN Call Processing 701" and one "BISDN Call Processing 703". However, it fails to disclose or teach the "means for interworking between said plurality of call control nodes and said plurality of connection control nodes." As further described in the independent Claims, each call control node includes "switching intelligence" as well as "narrowband switching fabric". In that regard, La Porta fails to disclose "a plurality of call control nodes each including switching intelligence and narrowband switching fabric." Furthermore, nothing in La Porta shows "a plurality of connection control nodes each including broadband switching fabric" as well. As a matter of facts, there is only one "switch fabric 704" being used by both "N-ISDN Call Processing 701" and "BISDN Call Processing 703" in the La Porta system.

Additionally, nothing in La Porta discloses or teaches a "database communicably coupled to said means for interworking" wherein "a call control instruction transmitted by said particular one of said call control nodes and forwarded by said interworking node to one of said connection control nodes is used for controlling call connection over said broadband switch fabric within said one connection control node." The Applicant submits that La Porta is silent as to how "broadband switch fabric" existing within a connection control node is controlled by a call control node via an interworking node in accordance with the teachings of the present invention.

Lastly, since La Porta fails to show a plurality of call control nodes communicating with a plurality of connection control nodes via an interworking node, it

further fails to disclose or teach the "translation" performed by the interworking node to make a call control instruction generated by a particular call control node to be compatible with a particular connection control node.

The Applicant further submits that other than referencing H.323 standard, the Elliott reference likewise fails to anticipate or render obvious, independently or in combination with La Porta, each and every element as recited in the pending independent claims. As a result, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the independent Claims and their dependent claims are now in condition for allowance.

3.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

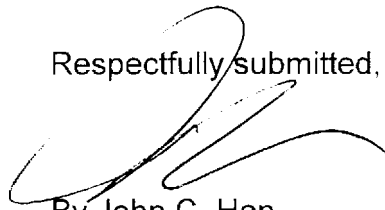
The Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over La Porta in view of Elliott et al. (US 6,754,181. As provided above, Elliott likewise fails to anticipate or render obvious the presently pending claims. Furthermore, all of the above claims depend on now allowable independent claims and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements thereof. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested for all pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John C. Han', is written over the typed name.

By John C. Han
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